

EMBLETONIA ALDER & HANCOCK, 1851 (GASTROPODA):
PROPOSED VALIDATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS.
Z.N.(S.) 1100

By Henning Lemche (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*)

The present proposal is mainly concerned with the stabilization of the generic name *Embletonia* Alder & Hancock, 1851 (Class Gastropoda). Klug, 1805 (*Beitr. z. Naturk.* 1 : 143) described a genus of solitary wasps under the name *Pterocheilus*, including several species of which *Vespa phalerata* Panzer, [1797] (*Fauna Ins. Germ.* (47): 21) was chosen as the type by Blanchard, 1840 (*Hist. nat. Ins.* 3, Hymenopt.: 389) as *Pterochile phalaerata*, the spellings being invalid emendations of both generic and specific names. Illiger, 1807 (*Mag. f. Insektenk.* 6 : 196) spelled the generic name *Pterochilus*, which spelling has been gradually adopted so that it became generally accepted. Only in a recent publication did Muesebeck, Krombein & Townes (1951, *Hymenopt. Amer. N. Mexico* 2 : 904) change back to *Pterocheilus*. Illiger's name has no status in nomenclature if it is a simple misspelling, whereas if it is an emendation it has its own rights concerning authorship and date. No indication concerning Illiger's intentions is to be found in his paper.

2. In 1844 Alder & Hancock (*Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* 14 : 329) introduced the name *Pterochilus* for a genus of Aeolid nudibranchs, the type-species being, by monotypy, *Pterochilus pulcher* Alder & Hancock, 1844. These authors later considered that *Pterochilus* was preoccupied by *Pterocheilus* Klug and replaced their own generic name by *Embletonia* Alder & Hancock, 1851 (*Mon. Brit. Nud. Moll.* (5): fam. 3, genus 14). The name *Embletonia* came into general use and has been consistently applied to that genus ever since. The present action is taken to ensure the continued use of *Embletonia* by suppression of *Pterochilus* Alder & Hancock under the plenary powers.

3. Verany (1854) (*J. Conchyliol.* 4 : 385) used the generic name *Diplocera* Blanchard with the type-species *Diplocera veranyi* and listed *Embletonia* as a synonym. He did not describe either genus or species and the only place in the *Ann. Sci. nat.* cited by Verany where I have been able to trace any mention of this name is in 1848 (*Ann. Sci. nat.*, Paris (3) 9 : 187) where a number of nudibranchs are listed by name only, amongst them *Diplocera veranyi*, which is therefore a nomen nudum both from Blanchard, 1848 and Verany (1854). These names should therefore be placed on the Official Index. The date of publication of Verany's paper seems almost certain to be 1854 since it was published in the last part of the band in question together with a letter dated "2 decembre 1853" (page 450). It would seem extremely unlikely, therefore, that publication should have taken place before the end of 1853.

4. The generic name *Embletonia* was made the basis of the family-group name EMBLETONIIDAE by Pruvot-Fol, 1954 (*Faune de France* 58 : 410). As this name is generally considered to be a junior synonym of TERGIPEDINAE Bergh (in Carus), 1889, I do not ask that it be placed on the Official List.

5. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is therefore asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Pterochilus* Alder & Hancock, 1844, for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy;
- (2) to place the generic name *Embletonia* Alder & Hancock, 1851 (gender: feminine), type-species, by monotypy, *Pterochilus pulcher* Alder & Hancock, 1844, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name *pulcher* Alder & Hancock, 1844, as published in the binomen *Pterochilus pulcher* (type-species of *Embletonia* Alder & Hancock, 1851) on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (4) to place the following generic names on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *Pterochilus* Alder & Hancock, 1844 (as suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above);
 - (b) *Diplocera* Blanchard, 1848 (a nomen nudum);
- (5) to place the specific name *veranyi* Blanchard, 1848, as published in the binomen *Diplocera veranyi* (a nomen nudum) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology.